PREFACE

Before it becomes obvious, I want it understood that this book is a direct, frontal assault on the personal and professional integrity of Gerald Posner and of Random House, the publisher of his mistilted CASE CLOSED, and on their collaborator, the Central Intelligence Agency, in the most thoroughly and intentionally dishonest of all books on all sides of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy and its official investigations.

That is a subject on which I can claim expertise. My first book on the subject was the first on the Warren Commission and its report. Since then I have published five additional books on that assassination. One more is in the process of being published now. I published a book on the King assassination. I filed a dozen lawsuits against the government -- mostly against the FBI — under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), and, as a result, obtained about one-third of a million pages of once withheld records. Some of these lawsuits were precedental, and one was cited in the legislative history of the 1974 amendment of that Act as requiring the amending of the investigatory files exemption to open FBI, CIA, and similar files to FOIA access.

(Preface continued):

I believe that from all of this and from other work I have a unique subject matter knowledge that enables me to claim expertise.

My criticism of Posner is not related to his deceiving me about the book he planned, when, for three days, he had free and entirely unsupervised access to all the information I obtained at such great cost and effort. In fact, he lied in describing his book.

~~But~~ one cannot reach his 80th year and still have deception and lying outside his experience. Nor is my criticism because I do not agree with him; almost all of the many writing in the field who have had similar free and unsupervised access here are those I know will write what I do not agree with.

Because I believe American writers must be free to write whatever they want to write, and because I believe that the records I obtained under FOIA are not mine as a property right, I have always made them available to all writing in the field.

My criticism of Posner is not related to his wretchedly bad behavior or to disagreement with his views.